

CLAIMS

1. A field liner for protecting a timber pole against subsoil decay, which includes a sheet element in the form of a laminate structure including a first layer of a flexible, liquid impermeable, non-biodegradable synthetic plastics film material that contains a dry film biocide therein and a second layer of a flexible, liquid impermeable, non-biodegradable synthetic plastics film material that is tear resistant, the sheet element being configured to permit wrapping thereof around a pole for covering the region of the pole to be protected and having an adhesive substance applied thereto in a region thereof that permits securing of the location of the sheet element on a pole when wrapped around the pole with its first layer abutting the pole by adhering the said region of the sheet element to an opposing region of the sheet element when wrapped around the pole.
2. A field liner as claimed in Claim 1, in which the sheet element is configured to define a rectangular configuration, that permits wrapping thereof around a pole by winding it on the pole, and the adhesive substance is applied thereto as an adhesive strip along an operative longitudinal edge region thereof.
3. A field liner as claimed in Claim 2, in which the sheet element is provided on a roll including a plurality of sheet elements, being separable from the roll by severing along a defined line of weakness.
4. A field liner as claimed in Claim 1, in which the sheet element is configured to define an elongate sleeve that has the first layer of material forming the operative inside thereof and the second layer of material forming the operative outside thereof and that permits loose location on a pole for covering the region of the pole to be protected and hence wrapping around the pole into a tight configuration of the sheet element on the pole, the second layer of material having an adhesive substance applied externally thereon in a region thereof that

permits securing of the location of the sheet element in its said tight configuration on a pole when wrapped around the pole by adhering the said region to an opposing region of the sheet element when wrapped around the pole in the said tight configuration thereof.

5. A field liner as claimed in Claim 4, in which one end of the sleeve defined by the sheet element is at least partially sealed to form a pocket, the at least partially sealed end of the sleeve, in use, serving to determine the location of the sleeve on a pole by preventing the butt end of the pole to extend beyond the said at least partially sealed end of the sleeve.
6. A field liner as claimed in Claim 4 or Claim 5, in which the sheet element, in its configuration in which it defines an elongate sleeve, is provided on a roll including a plurality of such sheet elements, being separable from the roll by severing along a defined line of weakness.
7. A field liner as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the first layer of the sheet element is formed of polypropylene film.
8. A field liner as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the dry film biocide contained in the first layer of the sheet element is of a type that provides for the protection of the sheet element against preservative-resistant micro organisms.
9. A field liner as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the first layer of the sheet element contains an insecticide compound therein.
10. A field liner as claimed in Claim 9, in which the insecticide compound is the pyrethroid insecticide, Deltamethrin.

11. A field liner as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the second layer of the sheet element is formed of one of low density polyethylene and high density polyethylene.
12. A field liner as claimed in Claim 11, in which the second layer of material is formed of high density polyethylene that permits crimping of a segment of the sheet element that, in use, extends beyond the butt end of a pole around which the sheet element is wrapped.
13. A field liner as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the second layer of the sheet element contains an insecticide compound.
14. A field liner as claimed in Claim 13, in which the insecticide compound is the pyrethroid insecticide, Deltamethrin.
15. A field liner as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, which includes a third layer formed of a flexible aluminium film that is vapour impermeable and that is laminated between the said first layer and the said second layer of the sheet element.
16. A field liner as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the adhesive substance comprises an adhesive sealant.
17. A field liner as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the adhesive substance is covered by a peel-off strip that can form a part of the field liner and that can be peeled-off prior to or during application of the field liner onto a pole.

18. A roll of field liners, as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 17, in which the sheet elements of the field liners form the roll and are separable from the roll by severing thereof along defined lines of weakness.
19. In combination, a pole and a field liner as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 17, with the field liner applied to the pole.
20. A field liner substantially as described in the specification with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.